



Increasing the pace, expanding the scope, and improving the effectiveness of conservation

November 14, 2013

U.S. EPA Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101

To whom it may concern,

The Willamette Partnership is a non-profit organization with the mission to expand the pace, scope, and effectiveness of conservation and restoration in the Willamette Basin and American West. On December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013, Willamette Partnership will be hosting a workshop in Union, Washington as part of the process to develop a Joint Regional Agreement on Water Quality Trading. This work is funded by a Conservation Innovation Grant awarded by US Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service. EPA is not receiving any funds under the grant but agreed to participate in the project. The final product of the grant is expected to be a document supported by EPA Region 10, and the environmental agencies of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, that provides a consistent framework for how water quality trading will be implemented in the region, and serving as guidance to the states. EPA will not be performing any regulatory work as a part of this project but will instead be offering its expertise and opinions on various program elements as they relate to the Clean Water Act and its implementing regulations.

We are specifically requesting the participation at the December meeting of Bob Rose. This is the fourth meeting of several important meetings needed in 2013 to further this project. Participation by the senior staff advising EPA's Office of Water leadership on water quality trading will enhance the group's discussion of key issues relating to water quality trading policy and its implementation.

The Willamette Partnership is providing full sponsorship of all meals for EPA participants with funds that are completely separate from CIG funds and CIG associated matching funds. The following represents an itemized accounting of the costs that WP will be sponsoring:

Meals (Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>)

Bob Rose ..... \$160.00

Please let me know if there is any further information that we can provide.

Sincerely,

Bobby Cochran  
Executive Director  
Willamette Partnership